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News in brief

Traffic increased at airport

Despite a sluggish economy and the rising cost of jet fuel, total passenger traffic at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) continued to climb in 2008.

Total passenger traffic at DTW increased 3 percent for the first five months of 2008 and 2.7 percent for the month of May according to data released today by the airport Division of Financial Planning and Analysis.

Airlines are projecting schedule reductions this fall, which are expected to affect passenger counts; but in the meantime, passengers are increasing their numbers at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. May 2008 represents the fifth consecutive month, year-over-year, of total passenger traffic increases at the airport. Five of the top 15 airports have reported declining passenger traffic in May according to research conducted by airport Strategy Management Division.

A total of 15,256,287 passengers used DTW through May compared to 14,805,485 for the same period last year. International passengers were up 2 percent for the first five months and 5.5 percent for the month of May on the strength of increases reported by Northwest Airlines, Royal Jordanian, Air France and new service by Aero Mexico.

Aircraft landings and take-offs were down 1.2 percent for May and remain essentially flat.

New signs forthcoming

The Romulus Downtown Development Authority (DDA) secured permission to place two state-of-the-art LED signs on city property at the regular July 14 meeting of the Romulus City Council.

The signs will be paid for using DDA funds, and will be placed at the entrance of the city municipal complex on Wayne Road, and at Romulus Historical Park, on Goddard Road.

The push to place new signage at these locations was to revitalize the image of the city and to have the ability to provide information on a rotating basis to residents and passers-by. The signs will be put into place later this year, according to city estimates.

City pays for truck repair

The 10-year-old city dump truck will get some needed work now that city council members have approved a request to pay for \$1,500 in repairs.

Tom Wilson, the director of the department of public works, said the truck is in need of emergency repairs, and recommended that the city contract with Taylor-based Allison Transmission for the repair work.

The repair is considered an emergency because the truck is used for roads and water/sewer work, and several jobs that would require the use of the truck are slated to begin.

Because the work is an emergency, the city sought only one bid.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 120, No. 30

NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST

75¢

School funding increase is minimal

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The news that schools would receive another \$56 in per-pupil funding received only a lukewarm response at the Romulus District headquarters on Grant Road.

Superintendent of Schools Carl Weiss said the funding would provide an additional \$200,000 for students, but that those funds would be eaten up by costs of employee contract raises, fuel costs, utility costs and other expenditures.

"I think it came out to about a .06 increase for us, and inflation is currently at 3 percent," he said. "It's not a kick in the pants, and we're glad we're receiving it, but it's not going to cover some of the expenditures we have."

Per pupil funding – the cornerstone of any school budget – increases and falls on enrollment. This year, Romulus schools may lose a

"It's an election year, and the trend for election years over the past 10 years or so is that any increases given to us are pulled back. But if we get to keep the money, it will get nice."

Carl Weiss

handful of the 4,200 students because of move-outs in the area, Weiss said.

"We're not going to have a definitive answer on how many students we're going to have this fall; we do expect to lose some," he said.

"People are moving out of the area because of the economy."

When district officials compiled and approved the budget, the biggest concern about growing costs was fuel.

"As everyone knows, our buses run on diesel fuel, which is well above \$4 a gallon right now," Weiss said. "That's what's going to take up most of the increase (in per-pupil funds)."

And on top of it all, history said the funds may never come because of politics that seem to crop up exclusively when there's an upcoming election, he added.

"It's an election year, and the trend for election years over the past 10 years or so is that any increases given to us are pulled back," he said. "But if we get to keep the money, it will get nice."

In case the money is pulled back, there

See Dollars, page 3



The beat goes on

The city's first-ever "Music in the Park" series continued recently week when the Six Foot Poles performed July 11 at the Romulus Historical Park. Band will continue to rev up their amps at the park for the rest of the summer. The next concert will be held from 7 – 8:30pm at the Romulus Historical Park, July 25 and feature "the Back Beats" playing Beatles music.

Cities, airport agree

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A meeting of the minds regarding the Detroit Metropolitan Airport Authority and the cities that oppose a comprehensive master plan appears to be working out for the better.

A delegation from cities that oppose the plan – including representatives from Romulus, Inkster and Taylor, among others – have met with Wayne County Airport Authority representatives for a period of six weeks.

During that time, both sides have been able to look at the plan, and though few details are available now, it appears the plan that comes up for a vote today will not include a fifth parallel runway, said Mayor Alan Lambert – one of four mayors who opposed the plan.

"I think the plan that is voted on (today) will not have a runway in it," he said. "I really owe a debt of gratitude to not only the mayors that supported us, but also the Airport Authority, which allowed us to work with them to come up with a plan acceptable to all sides."

What initially looked like an agreement not to include a fifth parallel runway now appears to be null and void, according to a firm hired by Romulus officials to help assess the impact of the plan on the community.

Though news of renewed tension between the cities and the authority trickled into news outlets Tuesday, both sides described the talks as fruitful.

At 1 p.m., the authority members are expected to vote whether the plan should be approved. Previous scheduled votes have been tabled twice this year.

Broad impact

Tim Keyes, Romulus economic development director, said he's disappointed that the runway

See Plan, page 3

Detroit church building gets go-ahead

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

City officials and representatives from a Detroit-based non-denominational church appear to be making progress toward agreement regarding a new building in Romulus.

At the meeting of the Romulus Planning Commission Monday, representatives of the Straight Gate International Church agreed to a set of standards requested by the commission that would pave the way for it to build a 17,500-square foot church on a 3-acre parcel of land located on the south side of Eureka Road between Middlebelt and Harrison roads.

Commissioners approved the church site plan Monday night, after Romulus City Council members approved a special land use provision July 14.

Tim Keyes, Romulus economic

The church is home to a number of religious and community activities, as well as outreach programs that serve the needs of people within and outside of the city of Detroit.

development director, said the church construction would require a special land use provision that is not completely compliant with the overall city plan.

He said he could not immediately recall which provision caused the project to require a special land use permit.

Straight Gate, which is one of the largest predominantly-African

American congregations in Detroit, was founded in 1978 by Bishop Andrew Merritt. The church grew steadily from a storefront with only Merritt's family as members to a 6,000 flock and a 165,000 square-foot facility in Detroit, according to the church web site.

The church is home to a number of religious and community activities, as well as outreach programs that serve the needs of people within and outside of the city of Detroit.

The church has expanded into other communities, but does not appear to have a footprint in western Wayne County.

Calls to the church were not immediately returned Tuesday.

The approval of the site plan and the special land use means the church will not have to appear before the seven-member city council again before it breaks ground, Keyes said.

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Summer triathlon

The Belleville Parks and Recreation Commission, along with Cool Cone hosted their 11th Annual Summer Kid's Triathlon at Belleville High School recently. The event included shot put, long jump and run events for children ages 3-14-years-old. Participants included Bryce Robbins (pictured with Mary Ann Emerson) Mason Robbins, Brianna Goff, Zayne Robbins, Rachael Blackburn, Tyler Osborne, Hunter Osborne and Elizabeth Blackburn.



Study reveals need for changes at high school

Andrea King
Staff Writer

After the recent problems at Belleville High School, officials decided to professionally assess the culture at the school.

Recent results of the study performed by Wood, Wenham & Henderson Consultants, LLC, showed discontent that's not new to the district and will require systematic changes. The study also found communications patterns that fostered indirect disagreement and a lack of peer leadership and accountability. Those issues were among many others listed in the study.

The problems, including administrative turnover at Belleville High School, appear to have been developing for more than the last two years and, because of the pervasive nature of the problems, are serious. They reach beyond the building walls, balloon in size and truth and good intentions have been overshadowed by controversy and conflict, according to the report.

"While our findings indicate many serious problems that must be addressed directly and honestly, our interviews convinced us that while people disagree about strategies and methods for educating students, everyone seems to have the best interest of the students in their hearts and minds," said Barbara Henderson, who presented the report recently to Van Buren School District officials.

The perception of dissatisfaction with the work environment at Belleville High School led to a number of interventions, including building-wide surveys and solicited complaints. The intent is that the report be used during the summer to do action planning so that a plan will be in place by the start of school to address the problems, officials said.

"The company was hired to come in and find out about the high school concerns, but when they came back it was to say it's a district wide problem," said Paul Henning, spokesperson for the school district.

Issues, the report said, included lack of appropriate authority lines, roles, core values and genuine involvement; minimal expectations of professional behavior; unclear organizational and interpersonal communication patterns. More complicated issues include relationships; blaming and rumor mongering; outside influence on the school district; lack of responsibility, trust and respect and rewarding complaints rather than success.

Recommendations for the school board were things such as: training, developing and understanding of authority, creating a strategic plan and develop and agreement to a process dealing with employee complaints. For the superintendent, recommendations were developing a process for employee complaints, developing a decision-making process and developing strategies for seeding and fostering ideas.

The report also suggests that school administration design a plan for increased visibility, collaborative with committees, better communication on changes and develop leadership groups for team building and training, according to officials.

"For whatever reasons and for however long, a culture of controversy and blaming has become the standard by which the high school has functioned," stated the report. "Wood, Wenham and Henderson consultants feel confident, however, that both administration and teachers at BHS are uncomfortable enough with the current environment that they can be counted on to invest the time and energy to rebuild mutual trust within the organization," Henning said.

Our interviews convinced us that while people disagree about strategies and methods for educating students, everyone seems to have the best interest of the students in their hearts and minds.

Barbara Henderson



Doug Geiss, Democrat for State Representative
Of the People, for the People
Doug Geiss is the *only* candidate who:

- has proven success, experience and leadership in both the private and public sectors.
- can claim having kept all of his election promises from both of his terms on Taylor City Council.
- understands fully, the legislative process, the protocol and the rules of engagement required for the position.
- was present at all of the town hall meetings held by the Airport Authority to speak out against airport expansion.
- has been present to support our troops as they left for or returned from duty in Iraq.
- got his hands dirty to help raze blighted houses near Taylor schools.
- was present to meet the new homeowners of the HUD-Dollar-Home program.
- has taken the time to personally call voters, indicating that he respects their time, intelligence and is willing to listen to them about the issues important to them.
- has consistently voted against unnecessary spending and policies and procedures that would raise taxes and hurt the citizens of his community.



A family man and the son of hard-working parents, Geiss understands the importance of a sound work ethic, the needs of families, community safety and the true importance of a strong educational foundation. Doug is committed to reducing spending, ensuring programs that will benefit families and workers at all levels, creating jobs and job retention (thereby boosting our economy), education from the earliest learners to professional development for adults, and programs and policies including the environment and energy security that lead to a return of Michigan's economic viability and vitality. Geiss is the choice to make on August 5th.

Doug Geiss is Endorsed by:



Mayor Alan Lambert, Romulus
Mayor Cameron (Kim) G. Priebe, Taylor
Clerk Linda Choate, Romulus
Treasurer Wayne Avery, Taylor
Councilman William Wadsworth, Romulus
Councilman Butch Ramik, Taylor
Councilman John Barden, Romulus
Councilman Rick Sollars, Taylor
Councilman William Crova, Romulus

Jac Desrosiers, Director of Police Services, Taylor
Police Chief Dale Tamsen, Taylor
Fire Chief Vince Fedel, Taylor
Michigan Democratic Party – 15th District
International Union of Operating Engineers – Local 324
Service Employees International Union – Local 26M
Harry Lester, Past Director – Steelworkers

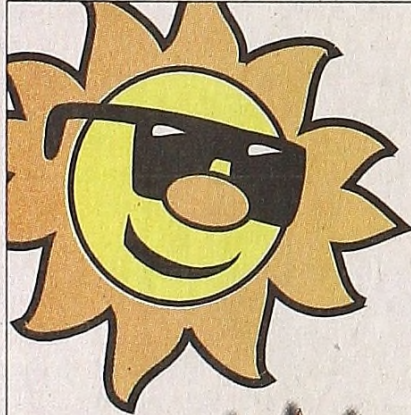


VOTE August 5th

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Angel Food Ministries now serves area

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Angel Food Ministries, a non-profit program providing discounted food has brought a blessing to the Belleville area.

Anyone who wishes to save money on their grocery bills can take part, according to Jewel Butler, a member of the Sevenfold Coalition Addressing Neighborhood Needs (SCANN), which sponsors the program.

“It’s available to anyone. If you eat, you qualify,” she said.

The assistance program offers a box of food for \$30, which varies each month in a variety of fresh and frozen food items. There are no guidelines or restrictions and a different menu is available each month. SCANN started the program last April, but has seen more people in the recent months, Butler said.

“A lot of people are taking advantage of this because of the way the economy is,” she said. “When you have to weigh whether or not to

”
*lot of people are taking
advantage of this because
of the way the economy is.*

Jewel Butler

get food or gas, you know it’s bad in Michigan, but you have to have food.”

SCANN is not the only group that’s joined the program, either.

The Crosswalk Community Church of Nazarene in Westland has also formed a team with the Belleville Fire Auxiliary to provide service to Belleville area residents, as well.

“A few years ago, it really struck as to what a neat program it is,” said Jennifer Blackburn, coordinator and member of the church and fire auxiliary. “At the time we started, it was just coming into Michigan, but it spoke to me as a program for the area, especially in a struggling economy. The food is good and I

participate in it, too.”

Orders for SCANN can be placed from 3 until 5 p.m. on the first Friday and second Thursday of each month, at the Starting Line restaurant and from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday at the Sumpter Community Center, the first two weeks of each month. The July menu includes a variety of meats, vegetables, pasta, milk, juice, eggs and desserts.

The next orders for Belleville residents will be accepted Aug. 7. For Westland residents, the order date is Aug. 9.

Each month, special boxes of meats are also available for an additional fee, but at

least one regular box of food must be purchased.

Pick-up for the SCANN program takes place from 10 a.m. to noon on July 26 at the Sumpter Community Center. Payments must be made at the time of the order in the form of cash, money orders or food stamps.

For more information on the SCANN sponsored program call (734) 461-6670 or (734) 497-6773. SCANN is also looking for volunteers, as well.

To contact the Belleville/Crosswalk program, call (734) 325-2274 or email crosswalkangelfood@yahoo.com. Menus are also available online at angelfoodministries.com

NOTICE CITY OF ROMULUS NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Pursuant to and by authority conferred upon me by the Secretary of State by Section 794C of Act No. 116 of the Public Act of 1954, as amended, notice is hereby given that a Public Accuracy Test shall be conducted by the Election Commission of the City of Romulus at 3:00 p.m. Friday, July 25, 2008 in the City Clerk’s Office, 11111 South Wayne Road, for the purpose of certifying the programs to be used in the counting devices which will be utilized to process Absentee Ballots in the August 5, General Primary Election 2008. Said Meeting is open to the public and any concerned citizen may attend.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: July 24, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

In compliance with State Election Law 168 Section 798, a Public Hearing will be conducted on Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan for the purpose of certifying the program to be used in the counting device which will be utilized to process voter ballots in the Primary Election to be held TUESDAY, August 5, 2008. Said meeting is open to the public and any concerned citizens may attend.

The Charter Township of Van Buren will provide, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations with advance notice to the Clerk’s Office, 734.699.8909.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: July 24, 2008

1954 PA 188 PROCEEDINGS Notice of Public Hearing on the Special Assessment Roll for Homestead Subdivision Phase III, IV, and V Street Lighting Assessment District

Charter Township of Van Buren
Wayne County, Michigan

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, OWNERS OF LAND WITHIN THE HOMESTEAD SUBDIVISION PHASES III, IV, AND V AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and Treasurer of the Township has reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a special assessment roll prepared by the Township covering all properties within the Special Assessment District for the Homestead Subdivision Phases III, IV and V, Street Lighting Assessment District benefited by the street lighting project. Said assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing a portion of the costs of the construction of the street lighting and work incidental thereto with the aforesaid Homestead Subdivision Phases III, IV and V Street Lighting Assessment District as more particularly shown on the plans by the DTE Energy Company on file with the Township Clerk at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, which assessment is in the total of \$52.66 per year per individual lot.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Treasurer has further reported that the assessment against each and every parcel of land within said District, will be equal and the same for each and every lot in the Special Assessment District for the Homestead Subdivision Phases III, IV, and V Street Lighting District.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Van Buren Township Board Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI on 19 August 2008 for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto. Said roll may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of said hearing and may further be examined at said hearing. Appearance and protest at the hearing held to confirm the special assessment roll is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

An owner of party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. (The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll.)

*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations can be made available with advance notice.

Township Clerk Joannie D. Payne
46425 Tyler Road
Belleville, MI 48111

Publish: July 24, 2008
August 7, 2008

CITY OF ROMULUS NOTICE TO ELECTORS Absentee Voter Ballots

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS,
COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN:

Notice is hereby given that **ABSENTEE VOTERS BALLOTS** are available for the Primary Election to be held Tuesday, August 5, 2008, and may be obtained from the Office of the Romulus City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, for electors who expect to be absent from the community, are physically disabled, cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of their religion, or are 60 years of age or older.

Notice is further given that Saturday, August 2, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. is the deadline for the acceptance of Absentee Ballot Applications, in accordance with Section 168.759 of Michigan Compiled Laws of 1948, as amended. The City Clerk’s Office will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the acceptance thereof.

“**LATE**” **ABSENTEE VOTERS APPLICATIONS** will be accepted from any registered elector between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the day before the election, Monday, August 4, 2008 if the voter shall personally appear at the Clerk’s office. Said ballot may not be taken out of the Clerk’s office but must be voted immediately.

EMERGENCY ABSENTEE VOTERS APPLICATIONS will be issued to any registered elector prior to 4:00 p.m. on Election Day if he/she shall become physically disabled or shall be absent from the City of Romulus because of sickness or death in the family which occurred at a time that has made it impossible to apply for Absentee Ballots by the statutory deadline.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: July 24, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION – AUGUST 5, 2008

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that the Primary Election will be held TUESDAY, August 5, 2008.

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #1	North Middle School	47097 McBride
Precinct #2	Fire Station #2	7981 Belleville
Precinct #3	Van Buren Township Hall (Board Room)	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #4	Van Buren Township Hall (Gym)	46425 Tyler Rd
Precinct #5	Wayne County Community College Western Campus	9555 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #6	Fire Station #1	45400 Hull Rd
Precinct #7	Belleville High (Auditorium)	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #8	Haggerty School	13770 Haggerty Rd
Precinct #9	Savage Elementary School	42975 Savage Rd
Precinct #10	South Middle School	45201 Owen St.

All polling place locations are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk’s Office prior to Election Day.

Candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties and non-partisan candidates for the following offices will be voted upon in the County of Wayne:

United States Senator
United States Representative in Congress
State Representative
Prosecuting Attorney
Sheriff
County Clerk
County Treasurer
Register of Deeds
County Commissioner
Judge of Third Circuit Court, Non-Incumbent position – Vote for 3
And in Township:
Supervisor
Clerk
Treasurer
Trustees – Vote for 4

COUNTY PROPOSAL

Wayne County Zoological Authority

The Wayne County Zoological Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 49 of 2008, and formed to allow for continuing zoological services for the students, residents and visitors of the County of Wayne. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax of not more than 0.1 mill (10 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on real and personal property to provide revenue for this purpose. Accordingly, to continue providing zoological services to benefit the residents of the County, shall a 0.1 mill on all taxable property located within the County of Wayne be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2008 through 2017. It is estimated that if approved and levied, this new millage will generate approximately \$5,299,640.48 in 2008.

Shall this proposal be adopted?

Yes

No

Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk’s Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, MI 48111, 734-699-8909. Deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the August 5, 2008 Primary Election for Van Buren Township is Saturday, August 2, 2008 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Township Clerk’s Office.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: July 24, 2008

OPINION

Change is needed on Plymouth Township board

We think there's a need for change on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees.

It's a bit obvious that there will be some, since incumbent trustee Charles Curmi isn't seeking re-election, and incumbent Clerk Marilyn Massengill is trying to unseat incumbent Supervisor Richard Reaume, but we think the change should go beyond that.

This is not only dependent on what the candidates themselves said, but on the feelings behind the scenes, as well.

Diane Gonzalez for Supervisor

Gonzalez has taken a lot of flack for running for the supervisor post so soon after she won election to the Plymouth-Canton School Board. She said she sees the office as a way to better serve the school community, and we think she's right. We're a little concerned about her being too beholden to the district, but we think having a township government that is

more supportive of the district—the way Canton Township and the City of Plymouth are—will be more beneficial to the overall community.

Gonzalez has shown that she's a smart, capable leader and will quickly take to the tasks the supervisor is responsible for. We think she will do an effective job of managing the day to day operations and planning for the future, too. The things that township residents enjoy about their community—low taxes, quality of life—will not vanish when she takes office and the things that residents don't like will improve.

Joe Bridgman for Clerk

Bridgman is the clear favorite in this race. His background within the clerk's department will prove invaluable both for himself and as he works with a new deputy. We like his ideas about bringing more technology to the department, and returning some of the responsibilities—such as accounting—

where they belong, too. We think he will fit in with the board of trustees, too and provide valuable insight there, as well.

Carl Berry, Kay Arnold, Steve Mann and Bob Doroshewitz for trustees

Berry is a no-brainer as the choice to fill the vacant township trustee spot. His length of service to the township—and the greater Plymouth community as a whole—more than qualifies him for the role. He is knowledgeable about the issues facing the community, still active, and will provide a reasoned voice on the board of trustees. He will be an invaluable addition in the difficult times ahead and will ensure there is plenty of positive discussion on upcoming issues.

Plymouth Township voters have an excellent chance of improving their government on Aug. 5. They should vote for **Diane Gonzalez, Joe Bridgman, Carl Berry, Kay Arnold, Steve Mann and Bob Doroshewitz**.

Our choices in Van Buren

Newcomers often face significant challenges in trying to seek elected office and in no place is that more clear this year than in Van Buren Township.

Challengers face not only the incumbents, but a slate of entrenched officials who campaign together under the umbrella 'The King Team.'

The entire existing board falls under this moniker; their signs are clustered together, they have a combined web site.

We've never been fans of this tactic. It lacks the individualism that we like to see in local races and tends to squeeze out new viewpoints while attempting to put a stranglehold on local politics.

The reason they give is that the incumbent board is well-rounded and works well together.

Well, so? Are they that concerned that they won't be able to work well with any political newcomer?

The truth is, though, that it will be difficult to vote against some of the incumbents.

Cindy King obviously deserves to keep her position as supervisor. Her experience in virtually every department in township hall gives her a broad foundation with which to continue her service.

Likewise, **Joannie Payne** is well-deserving of her post, too. The township clerk is an important spot, and not really an entry level post.

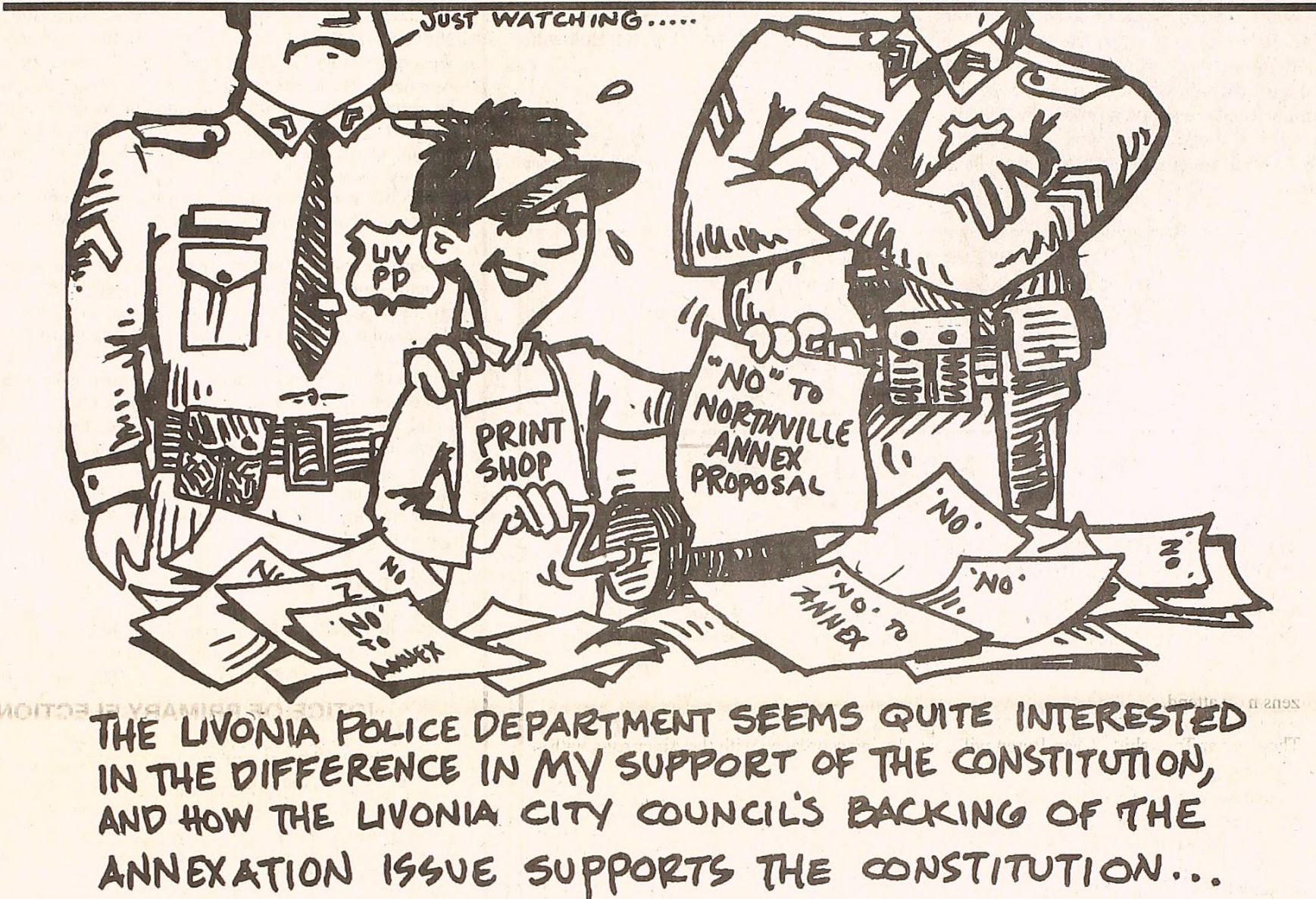
The trustee race offers a few options for residents who want to break up the King Team. In addition to the incumbents, **Lianne Clair, Phillip Hart, Jeffrey Jahr and Walter Rochowiak**, we think **Denise Partridge** and **John Herman** are worthy of the spot.

Partridge has a long history of service as a township employee. As long as she's willing to give up that role, she would be a very capable trustee. We like her emphasis on trying to protect the environment while promoting development and pushing for more open communication both within township government and between township hall and residents.

Herman filled the role capably until he moved out of the township and was replaced by Clair. With those issues safely behind him—as he claims they are—he could easily fit back in with the township government.

As far as the incumbents go, we like **Rochowiak, Clair and Jahr**. Rochowiak is a perfect example of a local elected official, a man with the interests of the community at heart. Clair will be important with her background in numbers and libraries, and Jahr's voice is needed as one who brings up issues and asks the right questions.

On Aug. 5, vote for **Cindy King** and **Joannie Payne**. Those who want to break up the King Team should cast ballots for **Denise Partridge** or **John Herman**.



The American way is under attack

The fight between people in Northville Township and officials in the City of Livonia over the annexation of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital just keeps getting weirdér and uglier.

Last week, Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey hosted a press conference to refute the allegations in a piece of anti-annexation literature put out by a group called Taxpayers for Responsible Development.

I was a little bit surprised by that because I hadn't seen anything like that before.

This week, seven Livonia police officers allegedly 'visited' the print shop in Madison Heights where the piece was produced.

This absolutely floored me.

There is a difference between looking into whether any election or postal laws were broken, as Kirksey mentioned last week, and sending a squad of police officers

about 30 or so miles outside of city limits to investigate a misdemeanor charge.

This kind of tactic is something that should scare the living hell out of everyone. This cannot be the direction our society is heading. We cannot let that happen.

It's a pretty safe bet that both sides are smudging the truth a little bit. Kirksey has said that he has not had any in-depth discussions with the development firm of REIS as far as what they'll want in the form of tax abatements, infrastructure improvements and what have you. At the same time, he's guaranteed Livonia residents that they will not have to foot the bill for any of it.

Those two claims don't add up.

When REIS[™] approached Northville Township, they wanted \$15 million in the form of a Brownfield Redevelopment fund-

ing. That was before they knew they might have to tap into the Livonia sewer system and potentially dig beneath I-275. If a Brownfield is granted, those funds will eventually be recouped, but residents expecting a major influx of capital into the city general fund any time soon will be sorely disappointed.

At the same time, Livonia taxpayers are already paying for it. I'm assuming the police officers didn't volunteer for the duty and they presumably had other things to do—say, protecting and serving the people in the community—before they took off in their attempt to squash free speech.

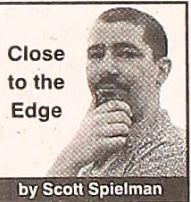
Glancing at the 'offending' piece of literature, a reasonably educated person can probably identify it for what it is, a piece of propaganda. It is made to look like it comes from the Livonia Office of Property

Tax Collection and Enforcement and suggest an average Livonia resident will see an \$1,800 tax increase if the annexation is approved.

So both sides are using scare tactics. The problem is that one of them is protected by freedom of speech and the other is using the plain old kind of bullying tactics we all are shocked by when we see them happening in other countries.

Both sides have stretched the boundaries here, but I think what Livonia officials are trying to see residents—and the tactics they're using to get their point across and subvert other opinions—are far more egregious.

You just have to ask yourself: what are they really gaining from this ugly feud?



Letters

Political literature criticized

To the editor;

It looks like the ugly side of election year politics is starting early this year.

My Thursday paper came complete with an attack on our State Rep. Marc Corriveau, from his opponent, Jerry Vorva.

It's full of half-truths, flat-out lies and outlandish suppositions that don't even make sense.

According to Vorva, people who drive foreign cars support Corriveau. Well, I drive a Ford, and I support Marc Corriveau.

I get the newspaper because I enjoy reading about what's happening in our area. If I want wild

fantasy and ridiculous conspiracy theories, I'll go check some books out of the library.

Please don't be swayed by the rantings of a desperate candidate who will say anything to get elected.

Mark Blackwell, Wayne

(Editor's note: The literature was delivered as an insert in the newspaper and was not a part of any editorial coverage of this campaign. It was prepared by the candidate who is solely responsible for the content.)

JOURNAL

NEWSPAPERS



The Northville Journal · The Plymouth Journal
Publications of Willow Media, L.L.C.

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The Romulus Roman · The Wayne Eagle · The Westland Eagle

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See Letters, page 6

Letters

FROM PAGE 5

Businessmen opposes bond sale

To the editor;
This is the first letter I've ever written to a newspaper in the 23years I've owned the Belleville Pro Hardware. Myself and most other business owners stay away from election or political issues because we rely on customers way may have a differenced of opinion.

The proposed repaving of Main Street though has certainly change our feelings about that. After struggling these last several years due to the declining economy in Michigan and the rising costs of doing business, the thought of the traffic on Main Street being disrupted for nine months or longer is terrifying, especially when the DDA's engineers proposed a plan to resurface the street, rebuilt the catch basins and repair any cracks in the base for only \$650,000 that would only take a fraction of the time to do, and we would get at least several years or more of quality use from that paving.

Some have said that the business owners don't care about the future of Belleville. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The thing is, though, we want to be a part of it. And without questions, a project lasting nine months or longer would have a devastating effect on those still doing business on Main Street.

Also, please know that the business owners have been trying to get the city to repave Main Street for over five years now. The reason it hasn't been done though is because the city has some very serious financial problems that have kept them from doing the job. All the while, though, the DDA has had enough money in their "reserve fund" to do the \$650,000 proposal without selling any bonds and taking on a loan with a payment of \$482,586.96 a year for the next 20 years. How could they afford to do any other projects with a debt like that burdening hem? This loan is a 51 percent debt to revenue loan. Try and get your bank to loan you any based on those figures.

Please look at all the facts before voting on the bond proposal Aug. 5.

Pleas remember, the bonds are not a grant but a "loan" that will have a 20-year payment of \$482,586.96. This information was disclosed at a joint city council/DDA meeting last-month by the bond lawyer himself.

\$6,500,000 Proposed Bond Sale
4.25% INTEREST
20 YEAR Repayment = \$482,586 annual payment

Please vote "No" Aug. 5 on the Belleville bond proposal.

Mike Windiate,
PRO Hardware
MSMA President

Send us your letters

The Journal Newspapers welcomes all letters to the editor.
Letters should be addressed to: The Editor, The Journal Newspapers,
35540 Michigan Ave., Wayne, Michigan 48184.
All letters will be considered for publication
and may be edited for content, space and length.

CITY OF ROMULUS, MICHIGAN
NOTICE TO ELECTORS

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS, COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a General Primary Election will be held in the City of Romulus, County of Wayne, State of Michigan on Tuesday, August 5, 2008, from 7 o'clock a.m. until 8 o'clock p.m. in the evening, Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

Candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties and non-partisan candidates for the following offices will be voted upon in Wayne County:

- United States Senator
 - United States Representative in Congress
 - State Representative
 - Prosecuting Attorney
 - Sheriff
 - County Clerk
 - County Treasurer
 - Register of Deeds
 - County Commissioner
 - Delegate to County Convention
 - Judge of Third Circuit Court, Non-Incumbent Position - Vote 3
- And the following proposal:

WAYNE COUNTY ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY

BALLOT ADVISORY QUESTION

The Wayne County Zoological Authority was established pursuant to Public Act 49 of 2008, and formed to allow for continuing zoological services for the students, residents and visitors of the County of Wayne. The law allows the Authority to seek authorization from the electors to levy a tax of not more than 0.1 mil (10 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) on real property and personal property to provide revenue for this purpose. Accordingly, to continue providing zoological services to benefit the residents of the County, shall a 0.1 mill on all taxable property located within the County of Wayne be imposed for a period of ten (10) years, being years 2008 through 2017. It is estimated that if approved and levied, this new millage will generate approximately \$5,299,640.48 in 2008.

Shall this proposal be adopted?
YES NO

- Each person voting on the above must be:
- (a) A citizen of the United States of America.
 - (b) A registered elector of the City of Romulus.
 - (c) Eighteen (18) years of age or older.

The polling places will be open for voting from 7:00 a.m., to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Precinct	Location
1	Wick School, 36900 Wick Road, Romulus, Michigan
2	Halecreek School, 16200 Harrison Road, Romulus, Michigan
3	Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, Michigan
4	Merriman School, 15303 Merriman Road, Romulus, Michigan
5	Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan
6	Rudgate Community Building, 7040 Shawnee Drive, Romulus, Michigan
7	Mt. Pleasant School, 39000 Superior, Romulus, Michigan
8	Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, Michigan
9	Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly Road, Romulus, Michigan
10	Cory School, 35200 Smith Road, Romulus, Michigan
11	Mt. Pleasant School, 39000 Superior, Romulus, Michigan
12	Merriman School, 15303 Merriman, Romulus, Michigan
13	Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan
14	Wick School, 36900 Wick Road, Romulus, Michigan
15	Romulus Elementary School, 32200 Beverly, Road, Romulus, Michigan
16	Halecreek School, 16200 Harrison Road, Romulus, Michigan
17	Cory School, 35200 Smith Road, Romulus, Michigan
18	Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan

Public notice is hereby given by the Romulus City Clerk in accordance with Michigan Election Law, as amended.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: July 24, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 15, 2008

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Clair, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Public Safety Director Champagne, Parks and Recreation Director Ross, Deputy Planning and Economic Development Director Swallow, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of nine (9).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Add New Business Item #4. "Consider appointing Craig Medlen to the Local Development Finance Authority with term to expire August 12, 2011." and revising item #1 to include the November 4, 2008 General Election to New Business Item #1. "Consider adoption of Resolution 2008-22, approving an emergency voting location change for the August 5, 2008 Primary Election (Precinct #5 Tyler School) due to road closure." Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

MINUTES: Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of June 30, 2008 as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Clair seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2008 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor King announced SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, is holding the following public meetings to give citizens an opportunity to express their opinions on the region's transportation system: Monday, July 21, 2008, SEMCOG offices, 535 Griswold, Suite 300, Detroit; 4-7 p.m.; Tuesday, July 22, 2008, Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen Rd, Southfield; 4-7 p.m.; and Wednesday, July 23, 2008, Washtenaw Community College, Morris Lawrence Building, Ann Arbor; 9 a.m.-12 noon. At these meetings, the public can complete SEMCOG's public opinion survey, browse information stations to learn how the transportation system works. The results will be presented to SEMCOG's elected officials before they adopt an official investment direction that will guide the submission of projects for funding from state and local road and transit agencies. Direction 2035 will be adopted in March 2010. Supervisor King read an email thanking the Public Safety Department staff for their professionalism and helpfulness when the former resident requested information.

Supervisor King reminded the audience Detroit Water and Sewerage Department is constructing a 42 inch water main along Tyler Road between Beck and Hannan Roads. The project is slated to be completed by January 2009. If you have questions call Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, Field Engineering at 313.833.8443.

Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, August 9th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Henry Ford Community College located at 5101 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. For more information contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at 734.326.3936.

Director Champagne announced an Open House for the public to tour Fire Station One on Saturday, July 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fire Station One is located at the on Hull and Sumpter Roads.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Rochowiak seconded to adopt Resolution 2008-22 approving an emergency voting location change for Precinct #5 for the August 5, 2008 Primary Election and November 4, 2008 due to road closure [Tyler Road between Haggerty and Morton Taylor] to the Wayne County Community College Western Campus. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve permit application PN 621330 1034-08-2586 by AT&T to install telecommunications infrastructure across the Savage Road public right of way (north to south), immediately east of the boundaries between the City of Belleville and Van Buren Township from a point near the western boundary of 661 Savage Road then southerly approximately 114 feet across Savage Road. Carried.

Clair moved, Jahr seconded to approve submittal of a petition for a contested case to Michigan Department of Environmental Quality seeking revisions to the re-issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II Watershed and Jurisdictional Permits. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the appointment of Craig Medlen to the Local Development Finance Authority with term to expire August 12, 2011. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the July 15, 2008 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: On Friday, July 18th the Belleville Community Band will be performing at the Van Buren Park as part of the summer concert series.

Supervisor King reminded residents an Open House for the public to tour Fire Station One on Saturday, July 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fire Station One is located at the corner of Hull and Sumpter Roads.

The "Tour de Belleville" bicycle tour fundraiser to benefit a local youth who has an illness will be held on Saturday, July 26th, for more information contact Director Ross 734.699.8926.

The Belleville Area Garden Walk will take place on Sunday, July 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to benefit the Friends of the Library. Tickets may be obtained from the Fred C. Fischer Library, Antiques on Main Street, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce and Garden Fantasy, for more information call 734.699.3291.

Trustee Jahr announced the Belleville Area Council for the Arts will host their annual picnic at Van Buren Park on Friday, July 18th.

Clerk Payne announced due to the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 the next Work Study and Board of Trustee meetings will be held on August 18, 2008 and August 19, 2008, respectively. In addition, all registered voters in precinct 5 will receive a letter in the mail notifying them of the temporary change of polling location from Tyler Elementary School to Wayne County Community College Western Campus as outlined in the resolution passed by the Board. Absentee ballots are currently being processed and for more information regarding voting contact the Clerk's Office at 699.8909.

Trustee Clair stated the Belleville Community Band is looking for members and information pertaining to the Community Bands is available on their website www.community-bands.net.

Director Ross announced a Babysitter and CPR class for youth 11 years old and up is being offered on Saturday, August 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to register and for more information contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): None.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Clair seconded to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk
Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: July 24, 2008

SPORTS

Whalers sign draft pick, ready for season

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

This season looks to be another exciting one for the Plymouth Whalers.

The Whalers signed players known for speedy offense and stout defense recently with their focus on getting back to the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) finals this season.

That's probably why Whalers President and General Manager Mike Vellucci chose the 16-year-old center Tyler Seguin in the first round (ninth overall) in last spring's Ontario Hockey League Draft. Seguin just might be the ticket to get the Whalers through the post season.

The Central Scouting report describes Seguin as a skilled, offensively-minded forward that is a very good skater that possesses quickness and agility. He plays the game at top speed with great puck handling skills while dis-

playing great vision and the ability to get his teammates the puck, the report said.

Seguin scored 39 goals and 47 assists for 86 points in 51 games last season for the Toronto Young Nationals.

"We are very fortunate to sign Tyler," Vellucci said. "He was a top-five pick in this year's OHL Draft and had several NCAA school offers. In the end, Tyler decided that he would play in the top developmental league in the world and at the same time receive a great education."

Seguin considered playing at one of the many universities that offered him scholarships, following in the footsteps of his father, Paul, who played from 1984-88 for the University of Vermont.

"All my life, I thought that was the path (college hockey) that I was going to take, but two or three weeks before the (OHL) Draft, I came to Plymouth, found out about the program, found about

the school packages and fell in love with the place," Seguin said. "So that's (Plymouth) where I see myself playing for the next couple of years."

Whaler fans saw flashes of brilliance from Seguin's at Plymouth's Rookie Orientation camp in May when he scored a goal with four assists over two sessions. Seguin—from Brampton, ON—will report to Plymouth's training camp in late August and will attend school at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park during the 2008-09 school year.

He's chomping at the bit to get things going in Plymouth.

"I'm just glad to get the opportunity to come to this great hockey club," Seguin said. "I can't wait to suit up in August. Plymouth is an unbelievable town with unbelievable fans. I got to meet all the rookies on the team from last



Fans caught a glimpse of Tyler Seguin at the Whalers' Rookie Orientation camp last May. Photo by Rena Lavery

See **Whalers**, page 8

Softballers take Pride to 'under 12' World Series

Ashley Dobos
Staff Writer

A group of area athletes hope to represent the community with pride in two weeks.

That's when the Plymouth-Canton Pride, a collection of under-12 softballers, will go to the USSSA World Series in Orlando, Florida. They'll compete against softball teams from across the United States to see which two teams will ultimately compete for the title of World Series champions.

The World Series is familiar territory for The Pride, since they qualified for it last year as well, but hadn't won any major tournaments along the way. The Pride finished 17th out of 48 teams in the World Series.

The Pride has three returning players from last year's team and have worked their way into contention again, said Coach Mike Gerou.

"We were not a very good team when we started last fall, but the girls have all worked hard since last August to become an excellent team," he said.

This is Gerou's second year as coach of The Pride, as well. He has led them to an overall record of 40 wins and 24 losses. Gerou has coached baseball for the last 10 years and fast-pitch softball for the last two.

"This year I coached three teams — baseball and softball at All Saints plus Pride softball, which is a year round commitment," said Gerou.

The Pride has been on a winning streak lately. They have won 13 out of their last 15 games, including 10 straight wins with four shutouts.

"We are a tournament-only team that seeks to play the best competition that we can find," said Gerou. "We have supplemented our tournament schedule with scrimmages against 14U teams and the best 12U teams who will play us. The goal was to qualify for and be ready to play our best ball at the World Series."

By finishing first or second in any USSSA World Series qualifying tournament, the team can receive a berth, as long as the team plays in the state tournament, too. The Pride has finished first or second six times, including at the state tournament.

The Pride has played several big games this year and has come out on top — or close to it — at many of them. The team was runner-up in the Belleville tournament, the Liberty Park Spring Fest, Interlakes, and the State tournament. In the last three weeks the Pride has won the Livonia Storm tournament and the Riverview Tournament. A few of their big wins have been beating Ohio's Lady Irish, the Ann Arbor Gold Team, and the Motor City Madness.

Making it to the World Series this year was a team effort, according to Gerou.

"We have had valuable offensive and defensive contributions from all 11 girls on our squad this year," said Gerou.

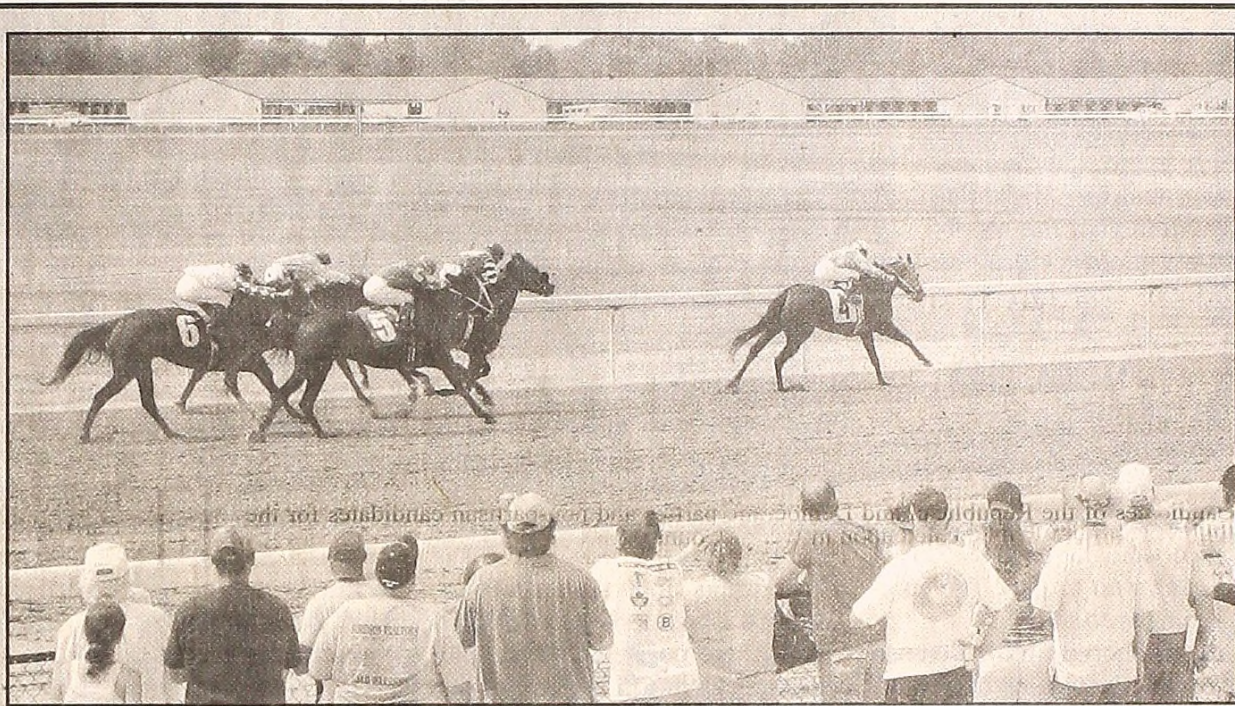
Leading the team in batting average, on base percentage, and extra base hits is Jessica Webster. The top three hitters of the season are Webster, Elaine Gerou, and Casey Bias.

According to Gerou, the team usually has sound defense. The Pride has shut out their opponents

See **Softball**, page 8



The PC Pride Stars U12 fast pitch softball team celebrates after a big victory earlier this season. The team is competing at the USSSA World Series in Orlando, Florida this weekend.



At the finish line

More than 3,000 people thronged to the opening of the new Pinnacle Race Track in Huron Township last Friday. Among the county officials on hand were Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, who was instrumental in helping owner Jerry Campbell get the facility, one of the few Thoroughbred tracks in the state, up and running in record time. Despite the 90 degree heat, crowds cheered and wagered on the horses who thundered across the finishing line in record speeds.

Photos by David J. Willett



Accelerators build athletes, students

Andrew Kirby
Staff Writer

The Michigan Accelerators, based in Wayne County, helps student athletes realize their potential.

A profile of a typical Accelerator is great student and dedicated athlete.

Coach Francis McCauley said he and the rest of the coaches are active in helping the kids go to the college they want.

"First, we find out where they want to go to school. Then we work with them and make sure their ACT's and FAFSA forms are done," McCauley said. "Then we send lists of their times and meet results to some coaches. Sometimes the coaches will even request films of a kid and we'll send that to them."

The Accelerators roster is very diverse. With about 80 teenagers on the team, they come from all over Wayne County.

"We got kids from Belleville to Trenton to Plymouth," McCauley said.

Some of the key runners on this year's Accelerators roster are high school seniors John Budson, Scott

Sansovich, Brendan Curran, Melissa Grossly, and Noel Bradley.

"They are all excellent students, with 3.4 GPAs and above," McCauley said.

Coach James Hall said education is a very important part of being an Accelerator.

"We want to see transcripts. We want to know where they are academically before we help them athletically," Hall said.

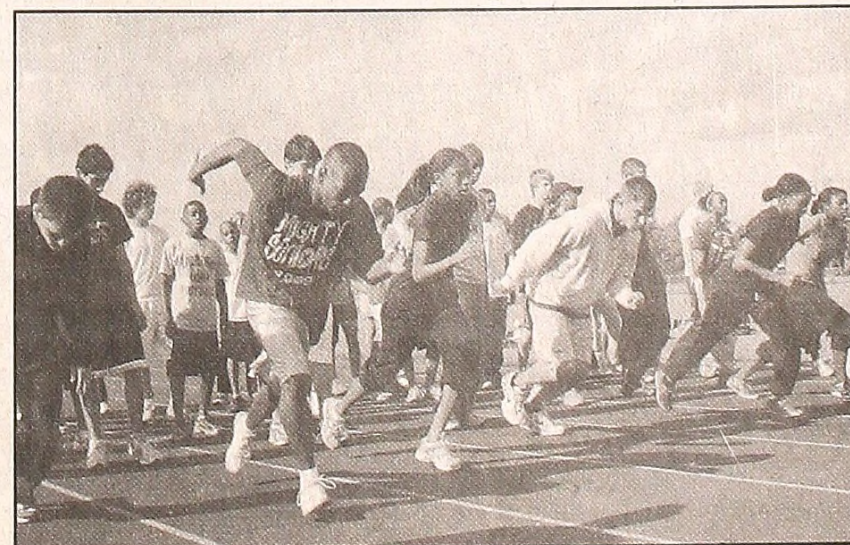
Hall said the coaches are not the

only people involved in helping these kids achieve their goals and get to college.

"Our mission statement is 'It takes a village to raise a child,'" Hall said. "Parents really make the sacrifice to get their kids there."

Darryl White, a former Accelerator, is headed to University of Texas at San Antonio next year on a full ride track scholarship.

See **Track**, page 8



On one of the few beautiful days last week the Michigan Accelerators warmed up during practice last week. Photo by Jeff Novak

SPORTS

Track

FROM PAGE 7

arship. White plans to take on a double major in Education and Criminology.

"I wanted to go south so that I could train outdoors all year round and I thought the [UTSA] track program was good," White said of his school choice.

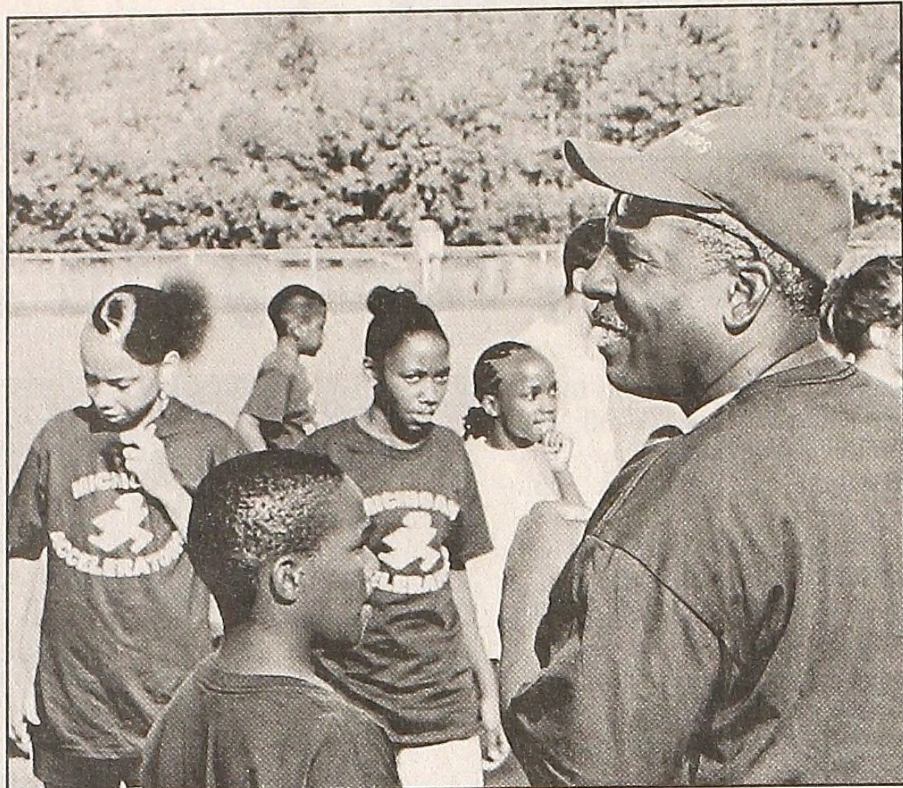
"The kids make it easy on us," McCauley said. "With such good grades and athletic talent, colleges really want these kids."

White wasn't any different. According to McCauley, White was a great student and his athletic talent spoke for itself. He's a Nike All-American.

White and his former Accelerator teammate, Varick Tucker, are High School State Champions in the 100-meter dash and 400-meter dash respectively.

Tucker, a former Belleville track star, is off to University of Tennessee on a full ride track scholarship. Tucker is majoring in engineering next fall.

The Accelerators practice four days a week in July and August; from 5-7 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and 9:30 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. The Accelerators compete in the USATF and AAU National Championships and sometimes go to the Nike National Championships. For more information visit their website www.michaccelerators.org.



Michigan accelerators Coach James Hall (above) surveys his team during practice last week. The coaching staff was preparing the athletes for a regional meet in Columbus, OH.



The Michigan Accelerators track club has a long history of grooming its athletes for Division 1 scholarships. Photo by Jeff Novak

Softball

FROM PAGE 7

10 times, and has held them to one run nine times and two runs 13 times.

The top pitchers are Gerou, who's right-handed, and Lauren Hayes, who is left-handed. Between the two, they have thrown no hitters, combined on no hitters, and Elaine has thrown a perfect game. Bias is the team's catcher.

Fundraisers are something that the Pride, like many other teams, put on in order to cut down the expense of being on the team. Some types of fundraisers the team include bottle drives, hosting tournaments, and hosting bowl-a-thons. There are also business sponsors to help cut costs. Some of the team's largest expenses are indoor rental facilities in the off-season, tournament fees, uniforms, and equipment.

Many parents and families want to go down to Florida to see the team play. The families must pay this expense. The fundraisers and players fees cover the team's expense of the trip to Florida—including the tournament fees and uniforms—and decrease the cost of the player's room expense. According to Gerou, travel and food costs are each family's obligation.

The Pride is ready to take the World Series by storm and will be joined by familiar faces. The PC 14U team, coached by Jim Gietl will also be going to the World Series. An Olympic-style opening ceremony will start the competition off on July 27 in the minor league ballpark at Disney's Wide World of Sports.

The World Series ends on August 2.

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SHOWTIMES 7/25 - 7/31 No passes

KIDS SUMMER MOVIES
Every Monday thru Friday at 10:30 am
7/28-8/1
THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES (PG)
ALL SEATS \$1

LONG WAY DOWN
Even McQueen & Chazzy Boneman's 15,000 mile motorcycle journey from Scotland to South Africa
THURS. 7/31 7:30 PM

THE X-FILES: I WANT TO BELIEVE (PG-13)
12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:55
THE DARK KNIGHT (PG-13)
12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40
MAMMA MIA! (PG-13)
11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:55
SPACE CHIMPS (G) 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:00
HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY (PG-13)
FRI-WED 11:25, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45
TH 11:25, 2:00, 4:35
JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH 3D (PG)
12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:35
WALL • E (G) 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

Whalers

FROM PAGE 7

year. Everyone seems to be a great guy. I can't wait to play. The summer's going by so slow."

Vellucci shored up the defense further with the signing of 16-year-old defenseman Austin Levi—a sixth rounder (110th overall) in the 2008 OHL Draft.

"Austin Levi is a big, strong defenseman," Vellucci said. "His midget coach last year (Todd Jenkins) said Austin had the most potential of any of the players on his team. He has a lot of raw ability. We're very excited to work with him and get him to be the

National Hockey League defenseman we think he can be."

Levi, a 6-foot-3-inch 190-pounder from Farmington Hills, recorded five assists in 22 games and 33 penalty minutes for the Compuware Under-16 team of the Midwest Elite Hockey League last season. He participated in USA Hockey's Under-16 Festival, which took place June 21-27 in Rochester, NY.

"I've been in this rink for two years and I know what the Whalers are like," Levi said. "I can get my education taken care of right now, so I wanted to go ahead and do this. It's very comfortable and I know a lot of people here. It's a good situation and I'm ready to take the next step."

The Whalers also signed goaltender Scott Wedgewood, a seventh round pick (130th overall) in the 2008 OHL Draft. Wedgewood, who turns 16 next month, compiled a 2.17 goals against average and recorded two shutouts in 29 games last year for the Mississauga Senators.

The Whalers open the regular season on Friday, Sept. 19 at Kitchener. The home opener for the Whalers is set

for 7:05 pm on Saturday, Sept. 20 against Erie. Plymouth only has one home preseason contest scheduled for 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6 against Sarnia.

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THE SCENE

The Dark Knight

Film sheds new light on old characters

Once upon a time, there was a man subjected to an unspeakable tragedy, a trauma so deep and hideous that it defined the rest of his life.

That basic building block provides the foundation for any number of memorable characters and it could apply to several in *The Dark Knight*.

Christopher Nolan's follow up to *Batman Begins* transcends the 'comic book' genre and tells a compelling story about tragic heroes and anti-heroes alike and lets us wonder why one man would turn to good, while another would embrace the forces of chaos and evil.

It is every bit the equal of its successor and finds new ground in characters that have existed for decades.

Christian Bale returns as Bruce Wayne and Batman; Morgan Freeman as his second-in-command, Lucius Fox and Gary Oldman as the faithful Lt. Jim Gordon.

Batman is up to his neck in challenges this time around, too. He has tried to represent a force for good in Gotham City, but copycat vigilantes are roaming the streets mucking things up. He's having limited success in tracking down the source of all the mob money in the streets and, to top it all off, he has a new villain to deal with, a self-described engine of chaos called The Joker (Heath Ledger).

Much will be said about Ledger's performance in this film and rightfully so. Rarely has there been an on-screen villain that captures the nature of evil, the blackness of uncontrolled depravity and insanity so completely. He is a marvel—no pun intended—to behold; a slimy thing that creeps under your skin and chills you to the bone.

In their script, Nolan and brother

Jonathon, do a few wise things. Notably, they ignore the traditional 'origin' of the Joker character and allow him to describe how he came to look and act the way he does. He tells several versions of the tale, each different, each disturbing and each much more plausible than having a guy fall into a vat of chemicals that bleaches his skin white and turns his hair green.

Nolan's version of the character is much closer to modern day depictions of the madman; he strives for chaos for the sake of chaos and puts people into impossible moral choices in an attempt to bring out the deep dark part in all of us.

Batman has help in his crusade in Gordon and the new district attorney, Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart). Their performances, while more subtle, are crucial to the success of the film as well. Oldman is spot-on in his depiction of Gordon, possible the last honest cop in the city, and Eckhart captures Dent's descent into madness in a way that would have overshadowed everything else going on, if it hadn't been for Ledger's Oscar worthy portrayal.

Of course, with a movie like this, there will be plenty of fight scenes, chases, explosions, special effects and the like. They don't disappoint. The film is about so much more than that, though. It is a character study that everyone can identify with. It speaks to current events with strong political undertones. At times it gets a little preachy, sure, but the underlying message is strong and clear.

Everybody is struck by tragedy at one point or another—although happily not to such gruesome extent—what matters most is how we deal with it.



Reviewed By
Luke Warm
Staff Writer

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1. Obituaries



BRYANT, Dwight Darnell Sr., age 40, died July 6, 2008. He was born January 16, 1968. Those left to cherish Dwight's loving memories are his wife, Marietta Denise (Butter), five sons, Darryl, Christopher, Dwight Jr., Radjay and Devonta; granddaughter, Laneija; parents, Rodger and Jerlean Bethune; brothers, Oscar (Billy Jo) and Rodger, Jr. (Tazaria); sister, Bobbie (Kenneth); grandmother, Thelma Carter; mother-in-law, Sandra Horton; father-in-law, Eddie Horton, Sr.; sisters-in-law, Lavonna and Shelly; brothers-in-law, Eddie Jr. and Brandon; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Services were held at Fountain Church of God in Christ, Ann Arbor, MI with Pastor Samuel L. Peppers officiating. Interment was at Sunset Hill Cemetery, Ypsilanti, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



CLARK, Samuel Earl, age 56, died July 8, 2008. He was born March 26, 1952. He leaves to cherish his memory, one son, Samuel E. Clark Jr. and five grandchildren of Detroit, MI; six brothers, Max (Carol) of Omaha, NE, LC (Gwenda) of Westland, MI, Kenneth (Mary) of Lansing, MI, Jerome (Marie) of Omaha, NE, Maurice (Jeanne) of Atlanta, GA and George Clark-Bey of Inkster, MI (Malcolm preceded him in death); four sisters, Louise Clark Wooden of Romulus, MI, Suzette (Edward) Bell of Westland, MI, Tamara (Richard) Rashad of Inkster, MI and Georgina Clark of Romulus, MI; 107 nieces, nephews and greats and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends. Services were held at Beverly House of God, Romulus, MI with Bishop Mauricio A. Clark officiating. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens, Plymouth, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



FLORENCE, Tamara Necole, age 28, died July 7, 2008. She was born June 24, 1980. Niki is survived by her beautiful daughter, Antwonetta Tavina Taylor, her loving mother, Michelle (Paul) Robinson, her loving father Brian Florence, two brothers, Brian Florence Jr. and Maleik Robinson, one sister, Shelby Robinson, her fiancée, Antwon Taylor, her grandmother, Ollie Lee Boyer, a nephew, Marian Florence, six uncles, five aunts, four great uncles, three great aunts, and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends. Services were held at Middlebelt Baptist Church, Inkster, MI with Pastor Roscoe C. Belton officiating. Interment was at Detroit Memorial Park West, Redford, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



GUESS, Delores, age 63, died July 3, 2008. She was born June 6, 1945. She leaves to cherish her memory her four children, Robert Jr., Marcus, Anita and Wanda; one sister, Pearl Dee; two brothers, Alvin and Clark; one son-in-law, Paul; three grandchildren, Derrick, Deshawn and Jeremiah; five nieces and seven nephews and a host of great nieces and nephews and other relatives and friends. Services were held at Detroit World Outreach Christian Center

with Rev. Clark Hardwick officiating. Interment was at Metropolitan Memorial Park, Belleville, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



SANDS, Pamela Rebecca, age 52, died July 6, 2008. She was born June 16, 1956. Pam leaves to mourn, her adopted mother, Algerne Carmichael; daughter, Tabatha Sands; brother, Charles h. Sands (Carolyn); long time companion,

Johnny Battle and a host of other relatives and friends. Services were held at Womack Temple CME Church, Inkster, MI with Rev. Zachary E. Easterly officiating. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens, Plymouth, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

SEYMOUR, Walter James of Canton, July 17, 2008. Loving husband, father, and grandfather. Jim was a Navy Veteran. Retired from Ford Motor Company where he worked at the Michigan Truck Plant. Jim will be greatly missed by his family and will be remembered for hosting some of the best barn parties in Wayne County. He leaves to cherish his memory: his wife of 59 years, Shirley, his sons,

Michael, Daniel (Yvonne), William (Elizabeth), Thomas, and his daughter Mary (John) Bassett. Jim also had seven grandchildren Brandi, Matthew, Jessica, Katherine, Andrea, James, and Julie. He spoiled them with ice cream and hayrides when they were little. Jim is also survived by his brothers and sisters Rosemary (Peter) Urbaniak, Lawrence (Susan) Seymour, Paul (Carolyn) Seymour, and Katherine Rosevear. Visitation was held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Wayne. Funeral Services were Monday, July 21st St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne. Contributions can be made to Angela Hospice or American Cancer Society.

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SIMMONS, Gale Leanna, age 62, died July 10, 2008. She was born October 30, 1945. Gale leaves to cherish her memory her loving mother, Marcella Long (Simmons); her loving son, Nolen Simmons (Joyce); and a devoted and loving daughter, Wendy Drew (Joseph); three brothers, Larry Simmons, Michael Simmons (Barbara) and Dwight Simmons (Vanessa); one sister, Sandra Simmons; ten grandchildren, Dontez, Lisa, Shahari, Janel, Shanel, Nolen, Brianna, Isiah, Nichlos, Jasmine, Danielle, Chelsea and Joseph Jr.; seven great grandchildren; three aunts, Leanna Hicks of Inkster, MI and Maldotha Bell and Lovie Mae Jackson of Cleveland, OH; two uncles, Albert Fann of Los Angeles, CA and George Burns (May) of Detroit, MI; special spiritual advisors and prayer partners Deacon and Deaconess Barksdale and Minister Mary Jones; nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of other relatives and friends. Services were held at Peoples Community Missionary Baptist Church, Westland, MI with pastor Vincent J. Matthews officiating. Interment was at Sunset Hills Cemetery, Superior Twp., MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



WALKER, Fred, age 57, died June 27, 2008. He was born February 4, 1951. He leaves to mourn, one sister, Janice, and two brothers, Clarence Walker of Maryland and Paul Walker of Detroit, MI, and a host of relatives and friends acquired throughout his life. Services were held at Penn Funeral Home. Interment was at Mt. Hope memorial Gardens, Livonia, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



WILLIAMS, Neva, age 89, died July 10, 2008. She was born January 1, 1919. She leaves to mourn her passing three devoted daughters, Shirley Ann Walker (Richard Henry) of Detroit, Phyllis Campbell of Inkster and Michal Patricia Walker of Romulus; one sister, Evelyn Butler and one brother, Arthur Clardy, both of Detroit; four grandchildren, Meeka Jordan, Jamie Moore, and Alicia Lawson (Corey) of Detroit, and Eugene O'Neal (Gwendolyn) of Rowley, NC; thirteen great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild and a host of other family members; a devoted nephew, Clarence Whittaker (Sharon); niece, Sandra Jean Thompson (Donald); William Clardy Jr. and Althea Tainer of Inglewood, CA; Lydia Hamilton and son Roderick Hamilton of Detroit and Charlene Davis of Cleveland, OH and a host of friends,

Services were held at Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, Westland, MI with Rev. Kenneth Pierce officiating. Interment was at Inglewood Historical Cemetery. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.



WRIGHT, Joanne Phyllis, age 65, died July 4, 2008. She was born February 27, 1943. She leaves to cherish loving memories her daughters, Tracy and Tamika; sisters, Loretha, Toni, Ida, Clare and Cynthia; brothers, Steven and Brian; brothers-in-law, Johnny (Ida) and Mike (Cynthia); sisters-in-law, Sabina (Brian), Theresa (Steven) and Debra Jackson (Kevin); grandchildren, Tony, Christian, Reginald and Tarina; great grandchildren, Tonnaiye and Tony III, and a host of family and friends. GOD called Joanne to come home on July 4, 2008, the day of celebrating freedom. Services were held at Word of Faith International Christian Center, Southfield, MI. Interment was at Mr. Hope Memorial Gardens, Livonia, MI. Final arrangements were entrusted to Penn Funeral Home, Inkster, MI.

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Veterans Haven benefits from area concert



The Lemon James Band takes a psychedelic trip down memory lane at the 2nd Annual Michigan Vet Fest July 12.

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

On July 12, area residents braved uncertain weather to rock the night away at the 2nd Annual Michigan Vet Fest benefit concert in Westland.

The event, which took place at the V.F.W. BOVA Post 9885, featured performances by area bands including the Outlaw Social Club, Doc Killian, Wyandotte Station, Mule Drive, The Lemon James Band, Cry Eloise, April Gibson, Romeo's Revival, Johni D and The Mystery Train, The Pat Zeleka Project, and Sweet Crystal. The live music continued all day long. The festival also included a car show, games, and raffles. It was more than just a night out on the town, though. It also served as a fundraiser for Veteran's Haven, a Wayne-based organization that provides temporary shelter and other assistance to American veterans in need of a helping hand.

Although the final figures are not yet in, Mark Hardy of Veteran's Haven said that the event attracted about 100 people and—according to early estimates—likely raised more than \$2,000 for the non-profit organization despite the

ongoing threat of wet, dreary weather.

"We're very happy with how it turned out," said Hardy. "It will be a big help."

Hardy said that there are three major areas in which Veteran's Haven needs help.

"Donations are really down this year," he said.

In addition to financial donations, which are always needed, Hardy said that Veteran's Haven also desperately needs information.

"The number one thing I need are job leads—general laborers, whatever they need," he said, adding that the veterans need to be able to find work in order to help them get back on their feet again. "My guys are all ex-military. They know how to follow orders and follow through."

Finally, he said that the organization also needs donations of vehicles. The cars and trucks are then used to provide veterans with transportation to work, school, or medical appointments.

For more information about Veteran's Haven, visit www.vet-shaveninfo.org or call (734) 728-0527. The group is a registered non-profit organization.

Marriage classes to be available

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Need help with your marriage?

Starfish Family Services and The Marriage Resource Center have partnered to provide marriage and relationship enhancement services to local couples.

The program that is being offered to couples through the joint-effort is PREP (The Prevention and Relationships Enhancement Program).

An education based initiative that teaches couples the skills and attitudes needed for marital success, PREP topics covered include improving communication; solving problems before they get out of hand; restoring intimacy; arguing less and loving more and making the relationship the best it can be.

"We are pleased to partner with The Marriage Resource Center so that together we can assist couples in building and maintaining healthy and happy relationships," said Ann Kalass, CEO of Starfish Family Services. "When parents and care-

When parents and caregivers have stable and secure relationships they are better able to provide a positive environment for their children.

Ann Kalass

givers have stable and secure relationships they are better able to provide a positive environment for their children."

All residents of Wayne County who are married or in a committed relationship are invited to attend classes free of charge at the Starfish Family Resource Center, located at 30000 Hivoley Road in Inkster.

Classes will take place from 5:45 until 9 p.m. on Tuesday July 29. Free child care and dinner will be provided.

The Marriage Resource Center provides the resources and tools needed to build healthy marriages and relationships throughout Wayne County. More information can be found at www.mimarrriage.org

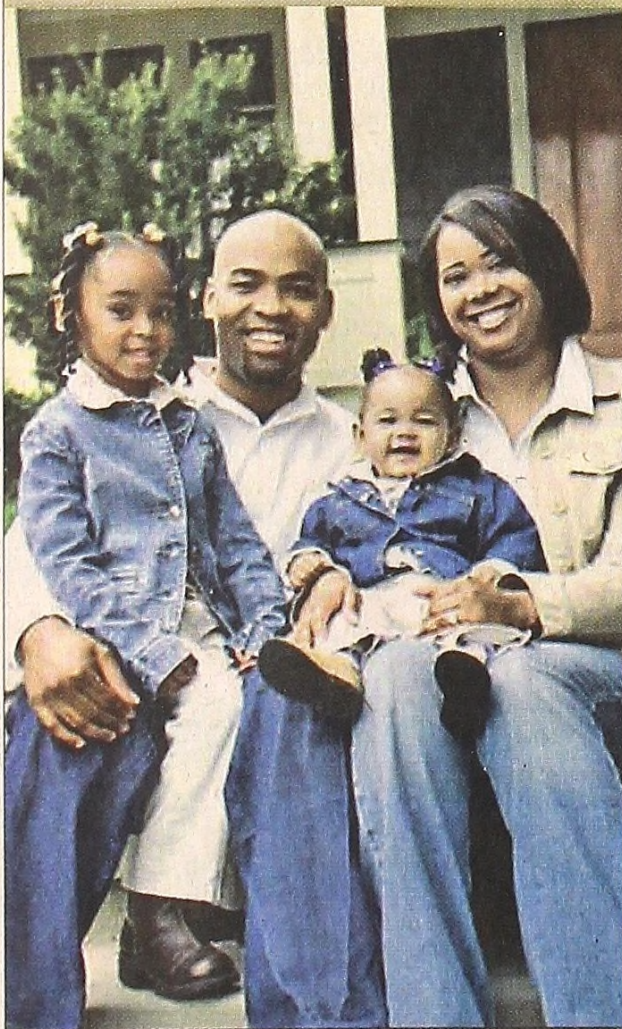
Pre-registration is required. To

register, call Kristen Chateau of Starfish Family Services at (734) 727-3114.

Starfish Family Services is the largest private, non-profit human

service agency in western Wayne County. The agency offers 12 specialized programs at more than a dozen service sites to help educate and empower vulnerable families and children in Southeastern Michigan.

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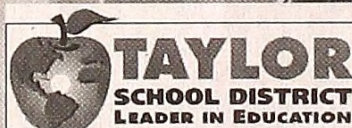
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Your child's learning curve starts here



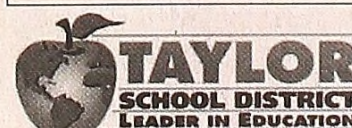
Parents...

Every course in school — and every lesson in life — has a learning curve, a time when we discover the basics and develop our own skills of inquiry, study and mastery.

In the Taylor School District, we start your child on that learning curve at the earliest possible age — preschool — and then layer the knowledge, relationships and skill sets necessary for them to be successful. In school and in life.

You have a choice when it comes to your child's education.

Your best choice is here.



The Taylor School District is now accepting applications from non-residents for tuition-free enrollment in grades K-8 for the fall 2008 school year.

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Taylor School District

SIXTH GRADE ACADEMY

Last year, we introduced an exciting new concept to our district — and it's quickly become a gem in the community: A stand-alone school for our sixth graders.

This technology-based facility offers an intensive curriculum while providing our young people a chance to adjust to the differences between elementary school and middle school.

PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

Our centralized Preschool Program provides the best possible jump start to your child's education. And if you follow up with All-day Kindergarten, your child will have the best possible start on their learning curve. (Preschool is available to current Taylor district residents only.)

OUR ELEMENTARY GRADES

We reach out to children at an early age, using hands-on methods to teach science and math — and unique inquiry methods to teach social studies.

This approach can be found right through to fifth grade. And then it's on to the Sixth Grade Academy.

EXCEEDING STANDARDS

Finally, once again, all of our elementary and middle schools have achieved Adequate Yearly Progress, the state's benchmark for student achievement, which means our entire district has met AYP.

In addition, Taylor has earned NCA accreditation for our middle schools, at both high schools and four of our elementary schools.

To register your student for All-day Kindergarten, elementary school, our Sixth Grade Academy or middle school, call: 313-295-5742 — today!

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD JULY 7, 2008 IN
THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Pro Tem William Wadsworth.
Present: John Barden, Ellen Craig-Bragg, LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Harry Crout, William Wadsworth.
Excused: Gear.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Linda R. Choate, Clerk

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Barden to approve the agenda as amended.*

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-195

2. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held June 23, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Crout, Crova.
Nays - None.
Abstain - Burcroff, Wadsworth.
Motion Carried.

3A. **Deleted**.

08-196

4A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendation of special legal council in the matter of Crown Enterprises Inc.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-197

4A2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to concur with the recommendation of special legal council in the matter of International Outdoor Corporation.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-198

4A3. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to proceed with the recommendation of special legal council in the matter of the Van Buren property.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-199

4A4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendation of Finance Director, Debbie Hoffman, Derrick Schueller, Assistant DPW Director and Special Legal Council and adopt a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute a mutual release agreement in the matter of Metro Commons.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-200

4A5. Motion by Crova, supported by Crout to adopt a resolution recognizing the 2008 Curry Family Reunion.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-201

4A6. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Owen Treder.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crout to accept the Chairpersons Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-202

5A. Motion by Bragg, supported by Burcroff to concur with the recommendation of Abbie Akins, Assistant Finance Director and Legal Counsel to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a service agreement with Official Payments Corporation to allow for “electronic check” payments to the City of Romulus.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-203

5B. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to concur with Cynthia I. Lyons, AICP, City Planner to schedule a study session to be held on Monday, July 14, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-204

5C. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to introduce Budget Amendment 07/08-29:

FUND/DEPT.	ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
General Fund					
Expense					
	101-1310-713	Clerk Personal Serv.	277,239	4,858	282,097
	101-1320-713	Election Personal Serv.	51,440	4,227	55,667
	101-1410-714	Treasurer Pers. Serv.	266,391	11,938	278,329
	101-2110-721	Assessor Pers. Serv.	323,382	14,922	338,304
	101-3210-732	Ordinance Pers. Serv.	147,475	2,558	150,033
	101-3310-733	Animal Control Pers.Serv.	146,830	1,602	148,432
	101-3810-738	Planning Pers. Serv.	117,755	5,276	123,031
	101-3910-739	Building Safety Pers. Serv.	720,198	36,594	756,792
	101-4110-741	DPW Personal Services	82,141	3,968	86,109
	101-5110-751	Recreation Personal Services	214,174	21,477	235,651
	101-5120-752	Library Personal Services	38,542	2,813	41,355
Contingencies					
	101-2920-729.89-01	General Fund Contingencies	236,384	(110,233)	126,151
Major Road Fund					
Expense					
	202-42XX	Mayor Roads Personal Serv.	195,754	31,137	226,891
Fund Balance					
	202-0000-390.00-00	Major Roads Personal Serv.	811,583	(31,137)	780,446
Local Street Fund					
Expense					
	203-43XX	Local Streets Person Serv.	292,146	27,344	319,490
Fund Balance					
	203-0000-390.00-00	Local Streets Fund Balance	65,009	(27,344)	37,665
Downtown Development Authority					
Expense					
	295-7410	DDA Personal Services	94,848	3,313	98,161

Fund Balance					
295-0000-390.00-00	DDA Fund Balance	67,563	(3,313)		64,250
Tax Increment Finance Authority					
Expense					
297-7210	TIFA Personal Services	194,724	2,802		197,526
Fund Balance					
297-0000-390.00-00	TIFA Fund Balance	14,946,137	(2,802)		14,943,355
Water & Sewer Fund					
Expense					
592-4510	Water Personal Services	692,363	50,613		742,976
592-4520	Sewer Personal Services	692,363	50,613		742,976
Retained Earnings					
592-0000-395.00-00	Water & Sewer Retained Earnings	4,952,696		(101,226)	4,851,470
Motor Vehicle Pool Fund					
Expense					
661-4410	MVF Personal Services		390,901	28,873	419,774
Contingency					
661-4410-744.89-01	Contingencies		2,395	(2,395)	0
Fund Balance					
661-0000-395.00-00	Motor Veh. Fund Retained Earnings	82,325		(26,478)	55,847

To compensate for the increases in wages for all Teamster employees retroactively from July 1, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-205

5D. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to introduce Budget Amendment 07/08-30:				
FUND/DEPT.		CURRENT		AMENDED
ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET	AMENDMENT	BUDGET
General Fund				
Expense				
101-3210-732.74-17	Ordinance Weed Cutting	48,000	10,000	58,000
Fund Balance				
101-0000-390.00-00	General Fund Balance	3,941,783	(10,000)	3,931,783

To cover cost of additional grass cutting of private lots due to unusually high vacancies throughout the City.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-206

5E. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to introduce Budget Amendment 07/08-31:				
FUND/DEPT.		CURRENT		AMENDED
ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET	AMENDMENT	BUDGET
BUDGET Retiree's Ins. Benefits Fund				
Revenue				
676-0000-410.60-70	Insurance Charge for Services	1,102,245	16,768	1,119,013
Expense				
676-8110-881.72-42	Retiree's Prescription Reimb.	0	300	300
676-8110-881.74-55	Retiree's Health Care	868,293	5,590	873,883
Retained Earnings				
676-0000-395.00-00	Retiree's Insurance Benefits	2,188,012	10,878	2,198,890

To reflect an increase in revenue that is based on a percentage of wages and 2) to show the increase in health care cost and show the increase in health care cost and the newly instituted prescription co-pay reimbursement in 07/08.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-207

5F. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to introduce Budget Amendment 08/09-01:				
FUND/DEPT.		CURRENT		AMENDED
ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET	AMENDMENT	BUDGET
Downtown Development Authority				
Expense				
295-7410-774.90-10	DDA Project Costs	200,000	160,996	360,996
Fund Balance				
101-0000-390.00-00	DDA Fund Balance	188,589	(160,996)	27,593

To move unused project funds from the 07/08 budget to the 08/09 budget to cover the DDA Monument Sign and other DDA projects.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-208

6A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendment 07/08-28, State Narcotic Forfeiture Fund, introduced at the Council Meeting held June 23, 2008.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-209

6A2. Motion by Bragg, supported by Burcroff to introduce an amendment to the Romulus Code of Ordinances Appendix B, Chapter 38, Section 38.5.9(a)(v) Employees Pension Plan to provide Loan Limitation Eligibility to participant financial hardship.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Burcroff, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - Barden, Crout.
Motion Carried.

08-210

6A3. Motion by Crout, supported by Barden to schedule a study session for the purpose of discussing detention/retention pond fencing for July 28, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in the City Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

08-211

6A4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to introduce a revised policy #31- Notary Public Service, that the City of Romulus may charge a ten (10.00) dollar fee for notarizing a document.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Wadsworth.
Nays - Crova.
Motion Carried Unanimously

12. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on July 7, 2008.

Linda R. Choate, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: July 24, 2008